

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10

ACDA-10 MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /091 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8906

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO

USUN NEW YORK 1887

CINCUSAFE

EUCOM

UNCLAS ANKARA 3178

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO FON. MIN. CAGLAYANGIL STATEMENT
THAT TURKISH ARMED FORCES UNABLE TO CONDUCT MANEUVERS
BECAUSE OF ARMS "EMBARGO"

1. TURKISH PRESS IN FRONT PAGE COVERAGE REACTED SHARPLY TODAY
(APRIL 22) TO STATEMENT BY FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL TO NEW
YORK TIMES (REPORTED LOCALLY BY WEEKLY YANKI) THAT U.S.
EMBARGO HAS RENDERED THE TURKISH ARMED FORCES UNABLE EVEN TO
CONDUCT MANEUVERS.

2. THREE NEWSPAPERS (MODERATE LEFTIST CUMHURIYET, MASS
CIRCULATION GUNAYDIN AND SOCIALIST YENI ORTAM) POINTED OUT
THAT CAGLAYANGIL STATEMENT SHOWED TURKISH ARMED FORCES AS
IMPOTENT, ENCOURAGED THE GREEKS AND CONTRADICTED STATEMENTS
BY MILITARY COMMANDERS. NEWSPAPERS SPECULATED THAT DEMIREL
GOVERNMENT IS PREPARING TO GIVE CONCESSION IN CYPRUS AND THE
AEGEAN ON PRETEXT THAT TURKISH ARMED FORCES CANNOT
FUNCTION IF AMERICAN

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EMBARGO NOT LIFTED. IN THIS REGARD, PRESS

NOTED THAT CAGLAYANGIL STATEMENT COINCIDES WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN'S VISIT.

3. PRESS EXPRESSED ANXIETY OVER DEMIREL GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO MANIFEST ANY EFFECTIVE REACTION TO AMERICAN CONGRESS' ACTIONS AGAINST TURKEY. GUNAYDIN CLAIMED THAT IF A JOURNALIST HAD MADE THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO CAGLAYANGIL, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN LABELED A TRAITOR AND CHARGED UNDER THE TURKISH PENAL CODE.

4. SEVERAL PAPERS TODAY ALSO REPORTED DEMOCRATIC PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL FARUK SUKAN'S CRITICISM OF FOREIGN MINISTER FOR MAKING STATEMENT CONTRADICTING ARMED FORCES' COMMANDERS THEREBY "CAUSING PUBLIC UNREST".
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY EXERCISES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA03178
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750141-0488
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750426/aaaaaycv.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 NOV 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 NOV 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <30 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO FON. MIN. CAGLAYANGIL STATEMENT THAT TURKISH ARMED FORCES UNABLE TO CONDUCT MANEUVERS
TAGS: MASS, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006